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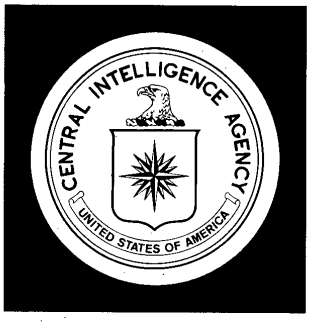

The President's Daily Brief

July 6, 1974

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THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

July 6, 1974

PRINCIPAL DEVELOPMENTS

Soviet news media are playing up results of the recent summit, with special emphasis on the broad support given detente in the US. China's coverage of President Nixon's trip to Moscow has been sparse, similar to Peking's treatment of US-Soviet summits in the past. *(Page 1)*

Chinese Premier Chou En-lai has been hospitalized, but during a conversation with him yesterday, Senator Jackson found him mentally alert and well-briefed on the Senator's earlier discussions with Chinese officials. *(Page 2)*

Saudi Egypt *(Page 3)* 25X1

Soviet President Podgorny will visit Somalia next week. *(Page 4)*

Libya USSR *(Page 5)* 25X1

Athens and Nicosia are moving closer to a new crisis in their relations as Cypriot President Makarios moves to gain greater control over the Cypriot National Guard which is run by Greek officers. *(Page 6)*

Notes on Panama, Egypt-Bulgaria-Romania, and USSR-Pakistan appear on *Page 7*.

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USSR-US-CHINA

Soviet news media are playing up the results of the recent summit, with special emphasis on the broad support given to detente in the US. Following the line set by party chief Brezhnev and others, the Soviets are portraying the President's visit as a further demonstration of the resolve of both sides to follow the course laid out over the past few years.

One broadcast stressed that the importance of the summit stems not from the number of agreements signed, but from its contribution to "maintaining the momentum" of improving relations. Soviet news commentators have also tried to draw a contrast between the summit's accomplishments and "pessimistic" predictions that appeared in the US press on the eve of the Moscow meeting.

Moscow has mentioned the personal roles of the President and Brezhnev in making the summit a success. The Soviets have balanced this, however, by noting that the policy of detente is dictated by US national interests and is independent of "political parties or different personalities."

* * *

China's coverage of President Nixon's trip to Moscow has been sparse, much like Peking's treatment of US-Soviet summits in the past. The Chinese press made no direct mention of the summit until it was over, and then broadcast only a brief, factual account of its results.

Despite China's reserve on the Moscow summit, high Chinese officials were very positive about Sino-American relations during private talks with members of Senator Jackson's party. The Chinese soft-pedaled problems in Sino-US relations, and some 130 Chinese officials showed up at an Independence Day reception at the US mission in Peking.

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CHINA

Chinese Premier Chou En-lai met with Senator Henry Jackson for half an hour yesterday in a hospital room. Senator Jackson noted oxygen equipment in the room and said the Premier pointed to a region just above his heart to indicate the nature of his illness. Chou admitted that he had been very sick, but Senator Jackson found him to be mentally alert and well-briefed on the Senator's earlier discussions with Chinese officials.

The official Chinese news agency admitted yesterday that Chou received Senator Jackson in the hospital. This admission reinforces the notion that the Premier is not incapacitated and may be an attempt to reassure the Chinese populace that he is on the road to recovery. Nevertheless, there is little doubt that ill health has indeed been a factor in the reduction of Chou's public duties. Throughout the month of May, the Premier repeatedly violated doctors' orders to limit his meetings with foreign visitors to one hour.

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EGYPT - SAUDI ARABIA

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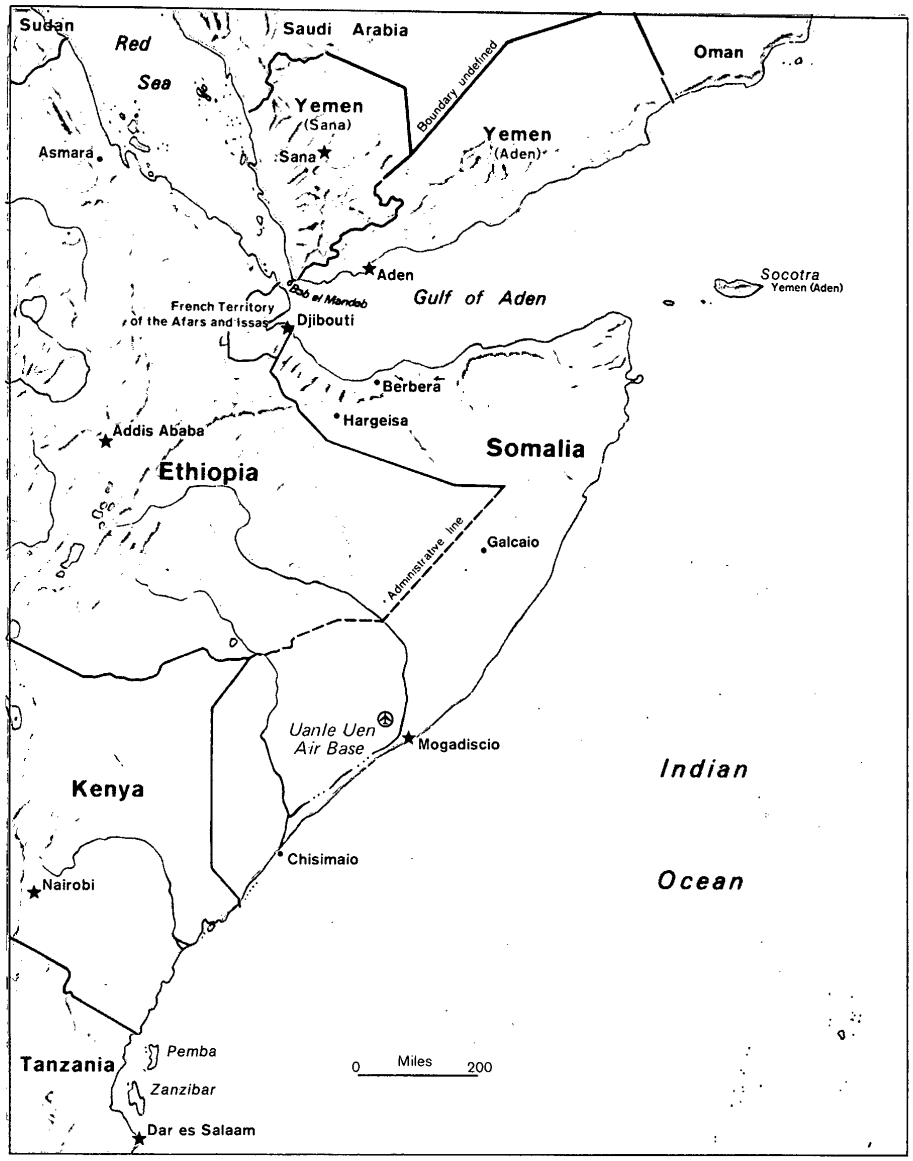

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USSR-SOMALIA

Soviet President Podgorny will visit Somalia next week. The Soviets, who apparently have been pressing for a high-level visit for some time, have been concerned that Somalia would turn to the wealthy Arab states and that Russian influence might suffer as a result.

Access to Somali port facilities at Berbera has helped Moscow maintain an Indian Ocean naval force. The Russians have also been assisting in the construction of an airfield that could be used as a base for long-range reconnaissance aircraft. The Soviet Union earlier this year provided Somalia with its first MIG-21 aircraft and SA-2 surface-to-air missile systems.

The situation in neighboring Ethiopia is sure to come up during Podgorny's discussions with the Somali leaders. The Soviets have not endorsed Somalia's territorial claims against Ethiopia and may worry that their Somali clients will become embroiled with the Ethiopians during this period of instability in Addis Ababa.

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USSR-LIBYA

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GREECE-CYPRUS

Athens and Nicosia are moving closer to a new crisis in their relations as a result of attempts this week by President Makarios to gain greater control over the national guard, which is run by Greek officers.

Makarios announced on Monday a reduction in the term of service for guardsmen from two years to fourteen months, a move designed eventually to reduce the force to 5,000 men--about half its present strength. On Wednesday, he sent a letter to the President of Greece, requesting that all but 100 of the present contingent of some 800 Greek officers attached to the guard be recalled and that the remainder serve only as instructors.

If Athens rejects his demands, Makarios intends to take the case to the UN and ask for US and Soviet assistance. Yesterday, he placed the police tactical reserve unit, which is directly responsive to him, on a state of alert.

Greece rejected Makarios' initial demand last month that 57 Greek Cypriot officer trainees who oppose him be dismissed.

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NOTES

Panama: The Torrijos government is pleased with the progress made during talks last week with Ambassador Bunker and is optimistic about the general course of the negotiations [redacted] Foreign Minister Tack has said that the document left by Bunker proposing joint administration of the canal shows that the US is taking a fair and open-minded approach. Tack indicated that the proposal would move Panama from "junior partner" to "senior partner" status during the life of the new treaty, and would then give the Panamanians total responsibility for administration of the canal when the pact expires.

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Egypt-Bulgaria-Romania: President Sadat's visit to Bulgaria and Romania from June 27 to July 2 was his first to any of Moscow's Warsaw Pact allies. Bulgaria granted Egypt a $100-million loan for industrial and agricultural projects. In Bucharest, Sadat's party held exploratory talks on Romania's supply of items ranging from small arms to ambulances. Romanian President Ceausescu was particularly pleased to receive Sadat. He regarded the visit as an opportunity to undo some of the bad publicity Romania has received in the Middle East for continuing diplomatic and economic ties with Israel.

USSR-Pakistan: Prime Minister Bhutto's trip to the Soviet Union--previously scheduled to begin on July 8--has been called off at Moscow's request. Moscow has suggested rescheduling the visit for mid-October. The Soviets explained that President Podgorny would be in Somalia from July 8 to 12, and that Brezhnev would also be out of town during that period.

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